



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/447,227 | 11/22/1999 | MARK C. SHULTS | DEXCOM.008DV1 | 3546 |

20995 7590 01/23/2008
KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP
2040 MAIN STREET
FOURTEENTH FLOOR
IRVINE, CA 92614

| |
|----------|
| EXAMINER |
|----------|

NASSER, ROBERT L

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

3735

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| NOTIFICATION DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
|-------------------|---------------|

01/23/2008

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

jcartee@kmob.com
eOAPilot@kmob.com

Applicant's arguments concerning the previous rejection have been found to be convincing. Accordingly, the following new final rejection is being issued.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 33, 34, 38, 41, 42, 56-64, 66-78, and 80-83 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Khan 5387327 in view of Picha. Khan shows a wholly implantable glucose sensing method including wholly implanting a device in a host, where the device provides continuous glucose sensing and comprises a housing 12 with a flat end and a protruding rounded tip 15 having a convexly curved portion that has a different curvature than the housing, where the tip includes a sensing membrane. It does not have the first domain. However, Picha teaches that it is known to encase an implanted sensor in a layer that is angiogenic or promotes vascularization, to enhance the measurement process, as described in columns 5 and 6. Hence, it would have been obvious to modify Khan to use such a layer, to improve the measurement process. Claim 42 is rejected in that the examiner takes official notice that it is well known to telemetrically communicate data from an implantable device. With respect to claims 56-58 and 62, it is the examiner's position that given that the device of the combination has an angiogenic or vascular promoting layer, it would measure glucose accurately for the claimed time periods. With respect to claims 59-61, the examiner notes that it is well known to explant the device when the useful life of the device is over. Claim 63 is rejected in that the foam of Picha is a silicone elastomer (see column 3, line 61). Claim 66 is rejected in that the device is a non-enzymatic

Art Unit: 3735

sensor (see column 9, lines 5-10). With respect to claims 66-69 the examiner takes official notice that all of the sensors recited are known glucose sensors. Hence, it would have been obvious to modify Allen to use any of the recited sensors, as it is merely the substitution of one known equivalent sensor for another. Claims 70-78, and 80-83 are rejected for the reasons given above.

Claims 33, 34, 38, 41, 42, 48, 49, and 54-83 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilson et al 5165407 in view of Picha. Wilson shows a wholly implantable glucose sensing method including wholly implanting a device in a host, where the device provides continuous glucose sensing and comprises a housing having a first portion and a protruding tip portion, where the tip is covered with a sensing membrane 24. The tip and other housing portion are both flat. However, the examiner takes official notice that it is known to round edges on implantable devices to minimize any trauma caused by the edges. Hence, it would have been obvious to provide a rounded tip in Wilson, to eliminate any trauma for the patient. It does not have the first domain. However, Picha teaches that it is known to encase an implanted sensor in a layer that is angiogenic or promotes vascularization, to enhance the measurement process, as described in columns 5 and 6. Hence, it would have been obvious to modify Khan to use such a layer, to improve the measurement process. Claim 42 is rejected in that the examiner takes official notice that it is well known to telemetrically communicate data from an implantable device. Claims 48 and 49 are rejected in that the sensing membrane includes an enzyme. Claims 54 and 55 are rejected in that there is an electrolyte between the sensor and the membrane. With respect to claims 56-58 and 62, it is the examiner's position that given that the device of the combination has an angiogenic or vascular promoting layer, it would measure glucose

accurately for the claimed time periods. With respect to claims 59-61, the examiner notes that it is well known to explant the device when the useful life of the device is over. Claim 63 is rejected in that the foam of Picha is a silicone elastomer (see column 3, line 61). Claim 65 is rejected in that the device is a non-enzymatic sensor (see column 9, lines 5-10). With respect to claims 66-69 the examiner takes official notice that all of the sensors recited are known glucose sensors. Hence, it would have been obvious to modify Allen to use any of the recited sensors, as it is merely the substitution of one known equivalent sensor for another. Claims 70-83 are rejected for the reasons given above.

Applicant's arguments filed 9/14/2007 have been fully considered but they are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert L. Nasser whose telephone number is 571 272-4731. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Marmor II can be reached on 571 272-4730. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Robert L. Nasser Jr/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3735

RLN
January 16, 2008